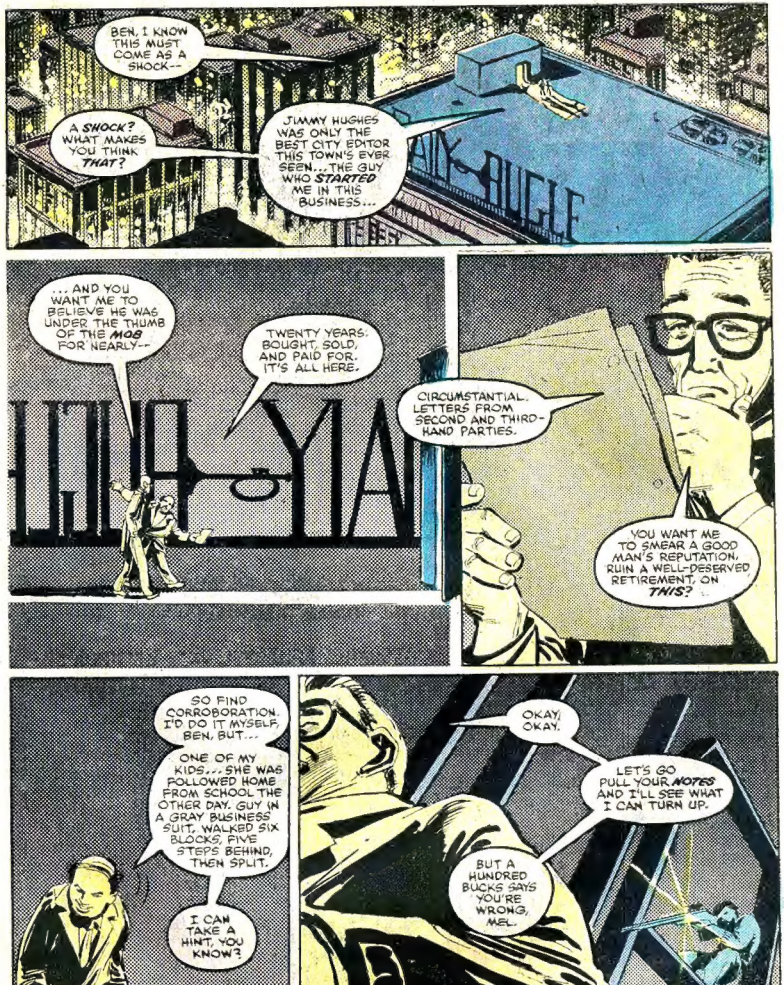
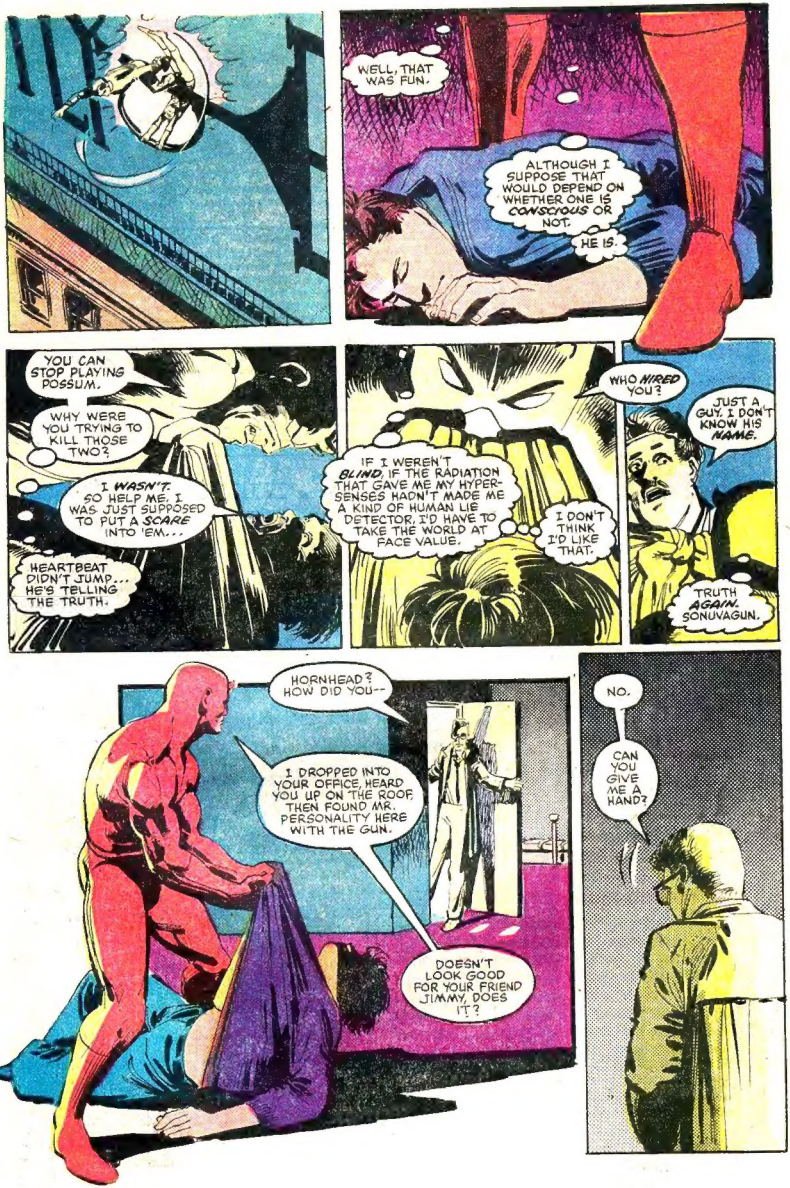
60¢
U.K. 25p
CAN. 75c
192
MAR
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
DAREDEVIL
© 1982 MARVEL COMICS GROUP



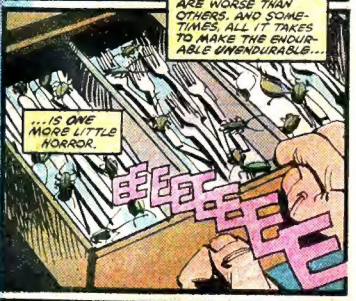
DAREDEVIL ■ **Vol. 1, No. 192, March, 1983.** (U.S.P.S. 148-440) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP. James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson Vice-President, Publishing. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President; Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1982 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 60c per copy in the U.S. and 75¢ in Canada. Subscription rate $7.20 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $9.20. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DAREDEVIL (including all prominent characters featured in this issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016

WHAKK
WHAT IN THE--
INSIDE, HURRY!
WHAPPP


WELL, THAT WAS FUN.
ALTHOUGH I SUPPOSE THAT WOULD DEPEND ON WHETHER ONE IS CONSCIOUS OR NOT.
HE IS.
YOU CAN STOP PLAYING POSSUM.
WHY WERE YOU TRYING TO KILL THOSE TWO?
I WASN'T. SO HELP ME. I WAS JUST SUPPOSED TO PUT A SCARE INTO 'EM...
HEARTBEAT DIDN'T JUMP... HE'S TELLING THE TRUTH.
IF I WEREN'T BLIND, IF THE RADIATION THAT GAVE ME MY HYPER-SENSES HADN'T MADE ME A KIND OF HUMAN LIE DETECTOR, I'D HAVE TO TAKE THE WORLD AT FACE VALUE.
I DON'T THINK I'D LIKE THAT.
WHO HIRED YOU?
JUST A GUY. I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME.
TRUTH AGAIN. SONUVAGUN.
HORNHEAD? HOW DID YOU--
I DROPPED INTO YOUR OFFICE, HEARD YOU UP ON THE ROOF, THEN FOUND MR. PERSONALITY HERE WITH THE GUN.
DOESN'T LOOK GOOD FOR YOUR FRIEND JIMMY, DOES IT?
NO.
CAN YOU GIVE ME A HAND?

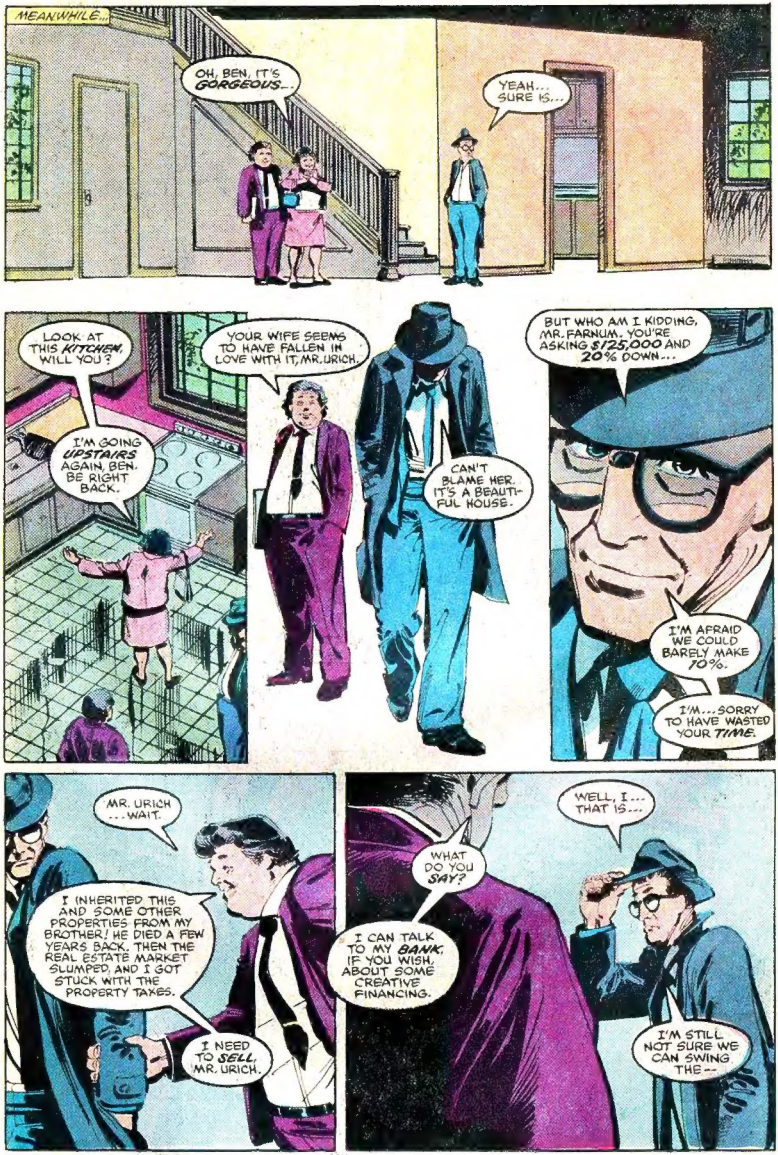
STAN LEE PRESENTS
PROMISES

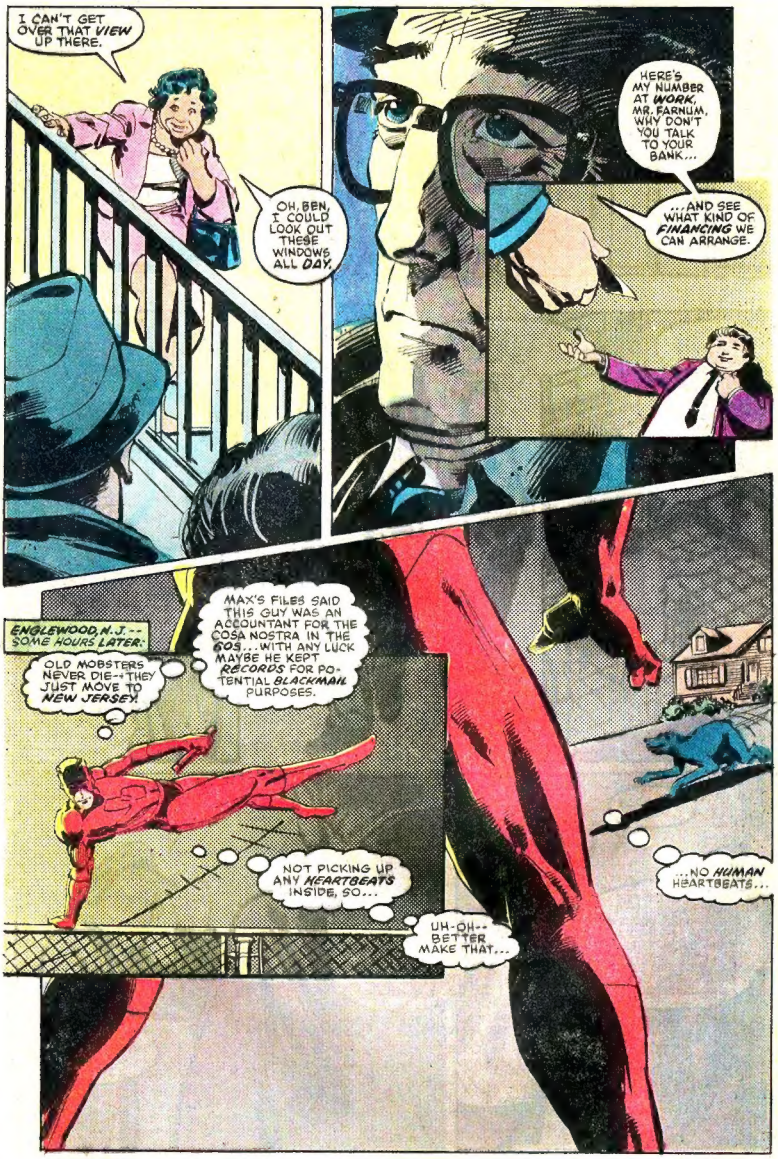
ALAN BRENNERT KLAUS JANSON DENNY O'NEIL JOE ROSEN JIM SHOOTER
WRITER PENCILLER/INKER/COLORIST EDITOR LETTERER SUPERVISOR

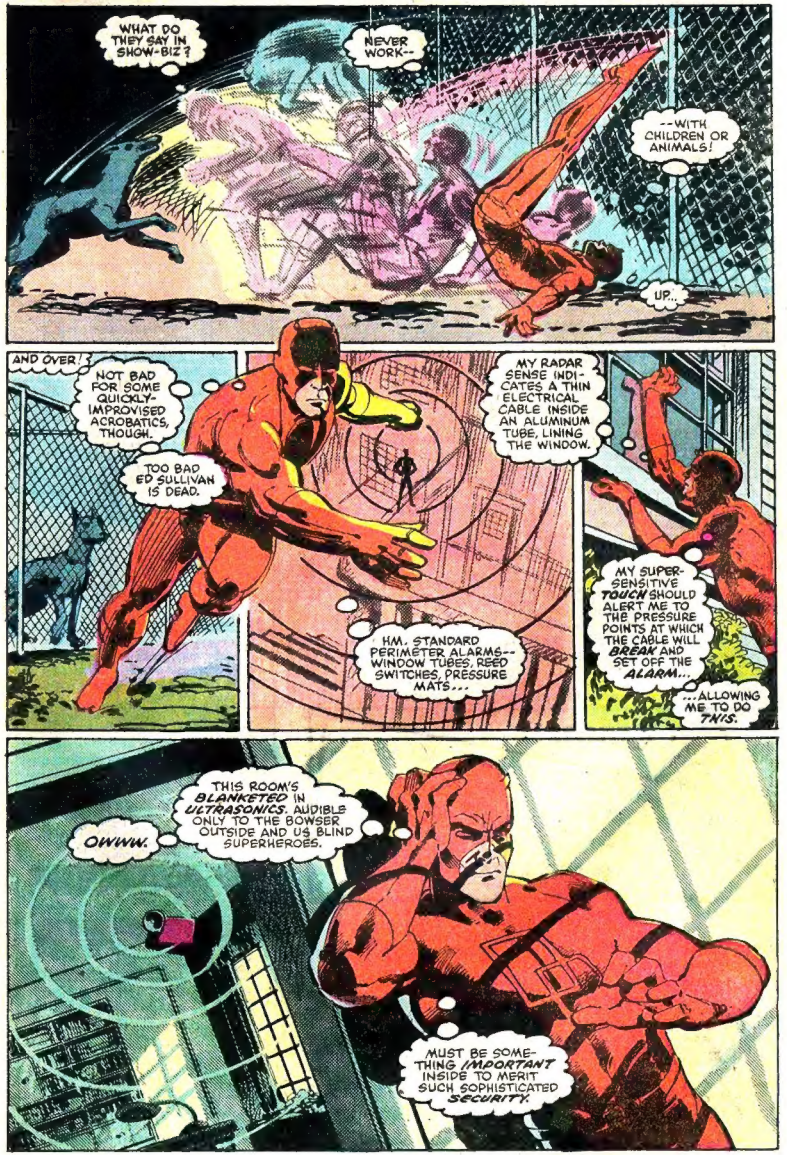


IT'S OKAY, HONEY... EVERYTHING'S OKAY...
OH, BEN, I FEEL LIKE AN IDIOT.
I'M SORRY. SOMETHING JUST... SNAPPED. I COULDN'T STAND IT ANYMORE, ANY OF IT...
I KNOW... I KNOW...
NO, BEN, YOU DON'T. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE BEING HERE ALL DAY.
I CLEAN. I GO SHOPPING. THAT'S THREE, MAYBE FOUR HOURS.
SO I WATCH TELEVISION THE REST OF THE DAY.
GAME SHOWS, SOAP OPERAS, THE CHANNEL NINE MOVIE.
THEN YOU CALL AND TELL ME YOU'LL BE LATE. I EAT DINNER BY MYSELF, PUT YOUR PORTION IN THE FRIDGE.
THEN I WATCH TV AGAIN. IF I'M LUCKY, YOU GET HOME BEFORE THE 11 O'CLOCK NEWS.
HONEY, DON'T YOU THINK IT HURTS ME, TOO? NOT BEING WITH YOU? BUT IT'S--
YOUR JOB. I KNOW THAT, BEN. I'M PROUD TO SEE YOUR NAME IN THE PAPER. I REALLY AM!
IT'S JUST... MAYBE IF WE HAD A NICER PLACE, IT WOULDN'T BE SO BAD WITHOUT YOU...
Y'KNOW, HONEY, I DON'T WANT TO WORRY YOU, BUT SUDDENLY I'M NOT FEELING VERY WELL. I MAY HAVE TO PHONE IN SICK.
BEN--WHAT--?!
YES, I DEFINITELY THINK I MAY HAVE TO SPEND THE DAY HOME. IN BED...
AND TOMORROW WE'LL GO HOUSE-HUNTING AGAIN IN WESTCHESTER, I GOT SOME NEW REAL ESTATE FLIERS IN THE MAIL YESTERDAY.
WHO KNOWS, MAYBE THIS TIME WE'LL GET LUCKY.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IF I'D LOCKED THE WINDOW?
I GIVE UP. WHAT WOULD I HAVE DONE?
FORGET IT.
MARLENE LAWANDER DEPUTY ATTORNEY
THE MEN NAMED IN THESE LETTERS WERE MAKING PAY-OFFS TO ONE JIMMY HUGHES.
THE FORMER EDITOR FOR THE STAR-LEDGER? INTERESTING.
I NEED TO LOOK AT WHATEVER FILES YOU HAVE ON THEM.
OH, OF COURSE.
WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, WOULD YOU LIKE TO RIFLE THROUGH OUR CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY FILES, JUST FOR LAUGHS?
RIGHT. SOME OTHER TIME, MAYBE.
AND FOR PETE'S SAKE CLOSE THE WINDOW WHEN YOU LEAVE THIS TIME, WOULD YOU?


MEANWHILE...
OH, BEN, IT'S GORGEOUS...
YEAH... SURE IS...
LOOK AT THIS KITCHEN, WILL YOU?
I'M GOING UPSTAIRS AGAIN, BEN. BE RIGHT BACK.
YOUR WIFE SEEMS TO HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH IT, MR. URICH.
CAN'T BLAME HER. IT'S A BEAUTIFUL HOUSE.
BUT WHO AM I KIDDING, MR. FARNUM. YOU'RE ASKING $125,000 AND 20% DOWN...
I'M AFRAID WE COULD BARELY MAKE 70%.
I'M... SORRY TO HAVE WASTED YOUR TIME.
MR. URICH ... WAIT.
I INHERITED THIS AND SOME OTHER PROPERTIES FROM MY BROTHER. HE DIED A FEW YEARS BACK. THEN THE REAL ESTATE MARKET SLUMPED, AND I GOT STUCK WITH THE PROPERTY TAXES.
I NEED TO SELL, MR. URICH.
WELL, I... THAT IS...
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
I CAN TALK TO MY BANK, IF YOU WISH, ABOUT SOME CREATIVE FINANCING.
I'M STILL NOT SURE WE CAN SWING THE--

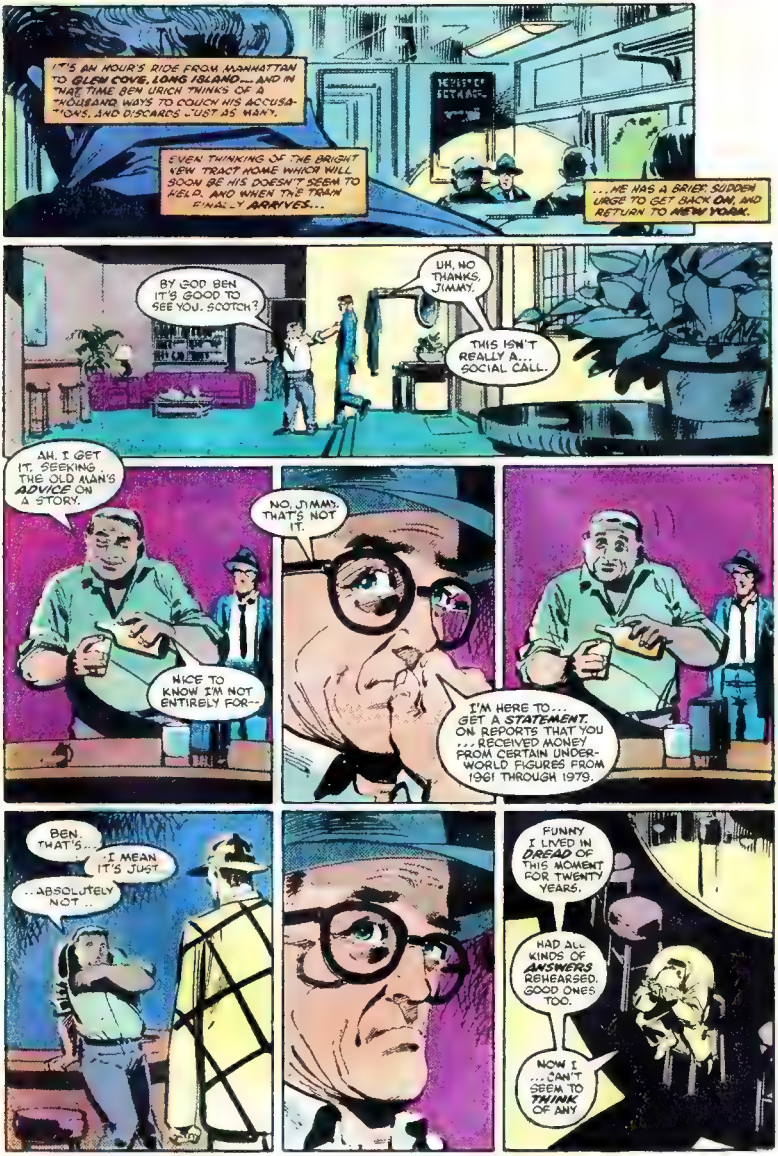

I CAN'T GET OVER THAT VIEW UP THERE.
OH, BEN, I COULD LOOK OUT THESE WINDOWS ALL DAY.
HERE'S MY NUMBER AT WORK, MR. FARNUM. WHY DON'T YOU TALK TO YOUR BANK...
...AND SEE WHAT KIND OF FINANCING WE CAN ARRANGE.
ENGLEWOOD, N.J. -- SOME HOURS LATER:
OLD MOBSTERS NEVER DIE--THEY JUST MOVE TO NEW JERSEY!
MAX'S FILES SAID THIS GUY WAS AN ACCOUNTANT FOR THE COSA NOSTRA IN THE 60S...WITH ANY LUCK MAYBE HE KEPT RECORDS FOR POTENTIAL BLACKMAIL PURPOSES.
NOT PICKING UP ANY HEARTBEATS INSIDE, SO...
UH-OH-- BETTER MAKE THAT...
...NO HUMAN HEARTBEATS...


WHAT DO THEY SAY IN SHOW-BIZ?
NEVER WORK--
--WITH CHILDREN OR ANIMALS!
UP..
AND OVER!
NOT BAD FOR SOME QUICKLY-IMPROVISED ACROBATICS, THOUGH.
TOO BAD ED SULLIVAN IS DEAD.
HM. STANDARD PERIMETER ALARMS--WINDOW TUBES, REED SWITCHES, PRESSURE MATS...
MY RADAR SENSE INDICATES A THIN ELECTRICAL CABLE INSIDE AN ALUMINUM TUBE, LINING THE WINDOW.
MY SUPER-SENSITIVE TOUCH SHOULD ALERT ME TO THE PRESSURE POINTS AT WHICH THE CABLE WILL BREAK AND SET OFF THE ALARM...
...ALLOWING ME TO DO THIS.
OWWW.
THIS ROOM'S BLANKETED IN ULTRASONICS, AUDIBLE ONLY TO THE BOWSER OUTSIDE AND US BLIND SUPERHEROES.
MUST BE SOMETHING IMPORTANT INSIDE TO MERIT SUCH SOPHISTICATED SECURITY.

NO ONE BUT I COULD DETECT THAT CHANGE IN FREQUENCIES...
...OR KNOW THAT BETWEEN THEM IS SOME TWO SECONDS OF "DEAD AIR" AS THE PULSE IS REMODULATED.
TWO SECONDS...
IT EVEN CHANGES FREQUENCIES ONCE EVERY THIRTY SECONDS, MAKING JAMMING IMPOSSIBLE.
UNIQUE DESIGN. OBVIOUSLY CREATES AN ULTRASONIC NET THROUGHOUT THE OFFICE; ANYTHING DISTURBING THAT NET WILL TRIGGER THE ALARM.
...SHOULD BE ALL THE TIME I NEED!
...AND THERE'S THE LAST TUMBLER, FALLING OBLIGINGLY INTO PLACE.
NO SUCH LUCK.
FOR BEN'S SAKE, I HOPE THIS HAS ALL BEEN JUST A WASTE OF TIME, AND HIS FRIEND IS--
I'D BE A PRETTY SORRY LAWYER IF I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE PAYMENTS TO A HOLDING COMPANY WHEN I... AH... FEET THEM.
PAYMENTS BEGAN IN 1961. WHY DO I FEEL THAT WHEN I CHECK NEW YORK INCORPORATIONS FOR THAT YEAR...
...THE NAME "JIMMY HUGHES" WILL BE LISTED AS THIS COMPANY'S PRESIDENT?

SOON...
EEEEP.
CLANGG
BEN...
IT'S FOR YOU.
WHEN I ASKED YOU TO HELP, I REALLY THOUGHT YOU'D FIND SOMETHING TO CLEAR HIM.
IF I'D KNOWN YOU'D FIND THIS..
I'M SORRY, BEN...
..BUT TRY NOT TO JUDGE HIM TOO HARSHLY UNTIL YOU'VE HEARD HIS SIDE OF THE--
HARSHLY? THE MAN TORPEDOED STORIES THE MOB DIDN'T LIKE...GAVE FRONT-PAGE SPACE TO POLIT CIANS THEY BACKED...
I'LL LET HIM MAKE A STATEMENT. SURE, BUT--
RINNGGGG
BEN URICH.
BEN? BARRY FARNUM HI.
OH, BARRY. HOW ARE YOU...
WHAT..?

GOOD NEWS, BEN.
JUST TALKED TO MY BANK. THEY'RE OKING THE LOAN. IF YOU CAN PUT 10% DOWN...
...YOU'VE GOT YOURSELVES A HOUSE.
HONEY, WE'VE GOT THE HOUSE! THEY'LL TAKE 10%!
BEN, YOU'RE KIDDING. IT'S OURS? IT'S REALLY OURS?
BELIEVE ME, BEN, I'M AS PLEASED AS YOU ARE.
PAPERS SHOULD BE READY WITHIN A WEEK. YOU TWO GO OPEN A BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE OR SOMETHING. I'LL TALK TO YOU LATER. G'BYE.
SEE, HONEY? ALL THOSE NIGHTS OF WORKING LATE... THEY'RE FINALLY PAYING OFF. WE'RE GONNA MAKE IT TO WESTCHESTER, JUST LIKE I PROMISED.
I NEVER DOUBTED YOU, BEN. I JUST DIDN'T THINK IT'D HAPPEN SO SOON.
WELL, CONGRATULATIONS, YOU TWO.
AND BEN... LET ME KNOW HOW YOUR MEETING WITH HUGHES TURNS OUT-- WHAT KIND OF STATEMENT HE MAKES.
WILL DO, DO. AND THANKS.
HE HEARS THEIR LAUGHTER BEHIND HIM-- HEARS IN BEN ULRICH'S USUALLY CAUTIOUS, CYNICAL TONE A JOY AND A HOPE HE HAS NEVER HEARD THERE BEFORE...
...AND HE CURSES HIMSELF FOR WHAT HE IS THINKING, PRAYING THAT THE FEARS AND DOUBTS GROWING INSIDE HIM PROVE GROUNDLESS.


IT'S AN HOUR'S RIDE FROM MANHATTAN TO GLEN COVE, LONG ISLAND... AND IN THAT TIME BEN URICH THINKS OF A THOUSAND WAYS TO COUCH HIS ACCUSATIONS, AND DISCARDS JUST AS MANY.
EVEN THINKING OF THE BRIGHT NEW TRACT HOME WHICH WILL SOON BE HIS DOESN'T SEEM TO HELP. AND WHEN THE TRAIN FINALLY ARRIVES...
...HE HAS A BRIEF, SUDDEN URGE TO GET BACK ON, AND RETURN TO NEW YORK.
BY GOD BEN IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU. SCOTCH?
UH, NO THANKS, JIMMY.
THIS ISN'T REALLY A... SOCIAL CALL.
AH, I GET IT. SEEKING THE OLD MAN'S ADVICE ON A STORY.
NICE TO KNOW I'M NOT ENTIRELY FOR--
NO, JIMMY. THAT'S NOT IT.
I'M HERE TO... GET A STATEMENT ON REPORTS THAT YOU ...RECEIVED MONEY FROM CERTAIN UNDERWORLD FIGURES FROM 1961 THROUGH 1979.
BEN, THAT'S...
I MEAN IT'S JUST...
...ABSOLUTELY NOT...
FUNNY I LIVED IN DREAD OF THIS MOMENT FOR TWENTY YEARS.
HAD ALL KINDS OF ANSWERS REHEARSED. GOOD ONES TOO.
NOW I ...CAN'T SEEM TO THINK OF ANY

GOOD LORD, JIMMY, WHY?
I WAS JUST A KID. I BELIEVED EVERYTHING YOU TOLD ME ABOUT ETHICS--SCRUPLES--
BEN, DON'T. YOU DON'T KNOW HOW IT STARTED...
MY DAUGHTER JULIE. SHE GOT MARRIED IN '59. REAL NICE GUY. I LIKED HIM. I WAS PROUD.
LATER SHE TELLS ME... HE'S MIXED UP WITH THE MAFIA. HE'S IN TROUBLE. THEY'RE GONNA MAKE A LESSON OF HIM...
...BUT I CAN SAVE HIM. ME. IF I... SPIKE A STORY ON SOME TWO-BIT BURGLARY.
BELIEVE ME, BEN, I WRESTLED WITH THAT FOR TWO DAYS. BUT IT'S ONE LOUSY STORY. AND MY SON-IN-LAW'S LIFE.
FOR JULIE'S SAKE, I DO IT.
IT STARTS SLOW, BEN. A FAVOR HERE A CHRISTMAS PRESENT THERE... BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS IN THEIR POCKET.
THAT'S HOW IT HAPPENS. YOU WAKE UP ONE DAY, AND YOU REALIZE YOU'VE BEEN MADE.
BULL. YOU COULD'VE GOTTEN OUT FROM UNDER. SOMEHOW.
I IDOLIZED YOU, JIMMY, AND YOU BETRAYED ME. YOU KNOW WHAT A FOOL I FEEL LIKE RIGHT NOW?
YOU SELF-RIGHTEOUS LITTLE... WHO THE HELL ARE YOU TO JUDGE ME?!
I HAVE MY SOURCES, BEN ...AND THEY TELL ME THAT NOT LONG AGO YOU KILLED A STORY ON RANDOLPH CHERRYH TO SAVE YOUR OWN HIDE!
THE KINGPIN HAD HIS LADY ASSASSIN LEAN ON YOU AND YOU JUST FOLDED. AIN'T THAT RIGHT, BEN?
THAT. THAT WAS...
...DIFFERENT.

SURE IT WAS.
IS THAT WHY YOU'RE SO BLOODY RIGHTEOUS, BEN? YOU LOOK AT ME... AT WHAT I DID... AND IT REMINDS YOU OF HOW YOU SOLD OUT!
YOU'VE GOT 24 HOURS, IF YOU CARE TO MAKE A STATEMENT.
AFTER THAT, I HAVE TO WRITE THE STORY.
I'M SORRY, JIMMY.
THE TRIP BACK TO NEW YORK IS EVEN LONGER THAN THE ONE TO GLEN COVE.
MEANWHILE, IN THE DOWNTOWN LAW OFFICES OF NELSON & MURDOCK...
GOOD GOSH, BECKY, IS THAT REALLY HIM?
QUICK-- SLAP A LEG IRON ON HIM BEFORE HE SLIPS AWAY.
MATT, I'VE BEEN CALLING ALL WEEKEND. WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?
MATT, GET SERIOUS.
ISTANBUL. THE FAT MAN GOT A LEAD ON THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE FALCON. TURNED OUT TO BE A DEAD END.
WELL, THAT'S WHAT I SAID. I THINK THE BIRD IS IN PERU, MYSELF.
HO HO HO
UH, MATT-- ALL THESE BOOKS ON REAL ESTATE LAW?-- WE DON'T HAVE ANY CASES DEALING WITH--
TELL ME, FOGGY, DOES THE NAME "FRANK FARNUM" RING ANY BELLS IN THAT STEEL-TRAP MEMORY OF YOURS?

KAGNUM? WASN'T HE OUR BUILDING MANAGER WHEN WE WERE OVER ON WEST 58TH?
YEAH... RIGHT. TURNED OUT TO BE SOME KIND OF LOONEY UNDERWORLD CHIEFTAIN? THE MASKED MORON...?
MARAUDER.
WHATEVER. ALL THOSE GUYS SOUND ALIKE TO ME.
WELL, TURNS OUT HE OWNED, NOT JUST MANAGED, THAT BUILDING... AND A FEW DOZEN LIKE IT.
AFTER HE DIED BATTLING DAREDEVIL, HIS PROPERTY WENT TO HIS BROTHER... WHO SEEMS TO HAVE AT LEAST AS MANY SHADY CONNECTIONS AS OLD FRANK.
BUT WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH US?
I, AH, MAY BE REPRESENTING ONE OF HIS TENANTS. AS A MATTER OF FACT, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...
...I'VE GOT A MEETING IN A FEW MINUTES...
"...ON DARK AVENUE."
HE IN?
I...UH ...I...
THANKS. I KNOW THE WAY.
THUDD

I FAIL TO UNDERSTAND, DAREDEVIL...
...WHY YOU CAN'T SIMPLY CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT LIKE ANYONE ELSE.
BEN URICH IS BUYING A HOUSE IN WESTCHESTER FROM A BUSINESSMAN WITH MOB CONNECTIONS, PRESUMABLY IN YOUR EMPLOY.
THE LOAN WAS ARRANGED BY A BANK ON WHOSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS YOU HOLD A SEAT.
WHY?
I SHOULD THINK THAT WOULD BE OBVIOUS.
MR. URICH HAS PROVEN QUITE BOTHERSOME IN RECENT MONTHS. I AM SIMPLY PROVIDING MYSELF WITH SOME INSURANCE.
YOU SEE, PHYSICAL INTIMIDATION IS EFFECTIVE ONLY UP TO A POINT.
A THREAT CAN WORK ONCE, PERHAPS TWICE. THEN A DISPLAY OF FORCE BECOMES NECESSARY.
A PHYSICAL BEATING CAN INSTILL FEAR... OR IT CAN BACKFIRE, MOTIVATING YOUR OPPONENT AGAINST YOU EVEN FURTHER.
SOME MEN CAN BE BEATEN ...CRIPPLED... EVEN BLINDED ...AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT.
HURT THEIR FAMILIES, AND THEY WILL FIGHT EVEN MORE.
IN THE END, THE ONLY FOOLPROOF WAY OF CONTROLLING THEM... IS TO KILL THEM.
KILLING JOURNALISTS IS A HIGH-PROFILE, HIGH-RISK ENDEAVOR. I TRY TO AVOID IT WHEN POSSIBLE.
FAR EASIER TO PLACE THEM IN A POSITION WHERE, HOWEVER UNKNOWINGLY, THEY BECOME DEPENDENT UPON ME.
SOMEDAY, THAT WILL WORK TO MY ADVANTAGE.

EXCEPT THAT I KNOW THE TRUTH.
AND WHEN I TELL BEN--
IT WILL CHANGE NOTHING. WHY ELSE WOULD I BE TALKING TO YOU?
MR. URICH HAS A DREAM. A RATHER SMALL, PITIFUL DREAM, BUT STILL, A DREAM.
AND HE HAS A WIFE...
...WHOM HE WOULD NOT DISAPPOINT FOR ANYTHING IN THIS WORLD.
ULTIMATELY, HE CAN ONLY DO ONE THING.
ULTIMATELY, HE WILL BE MINE.
KINGPIN, YOU MAKE ME SICK.
USING A MAN'S MOST CHERISHED DREAM AGAINST HIM... THE ONLY THING I'VE EVER SEEN THAT'S EVER MADE HIM HAPPY...
INDEED?
AND WHEN YOU FOUND MY WIFE, VANESSA, ALIVE... AND USED HER TO BLACKMAIL ME INTO DOING YOUR BIDDING...
HOW WAS THAT DIFFERENT?

AND...
MUST BE MY WEEK FOR GOOD NEWS.
BEN, I'M SORRY.
YEAH.
SHE'S BEEN SO GOOD TO ME, MATT. SHE DESERVES SO MUCH BETTER. BETTER THAN ME...
DORIS HAS BEEN SO HAPPY SINCE WE GOT THE NEWS. SINGING AROUND THE HOUSE. LAUGHING. LIKE A KID. LIKE WHEN I FIRST MET HER.
BEN, DON'T--
IT'S TRUE. WHEN WE GOT MARRIED, I PROMISED HER THE MOON. I WAS THIS HOTSHOT JOURNALISM MAJOR AT NYU... EDITOR OF THE CAMPUS PAPER...
I SMOKED CAMELS 'CAUSE THAT'S WHAT EDWARD R. MURROW SMOKED. I WAS GONNA BE, I DON'T KNOW, THE NEXT JIMMY BRESLIN.
GOOD GOD, WHAT HAPPENED?
TWENTY YEARS LATER I'M A THIRD-RANK COLUMNIST ON A THIRD-RANK PAPER, AND THE ONE STORY I WRITE THAT COULD GET ME OUT OF THE HOLE I LIVE IN...
...IS THE ONE STORY I CAN NEVER PUBLISH.

MAYBE NOT. BUT HOW MANY OTHER REPORTERS COULD HAVE EVEN DISCOVERED DAREDEVIL'S REAL IDENTITY, BEN?
OH, SURE. LIVE OFF THE SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT.
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, ISN'T IT? AS DAREDEVIL YOU'VE GOT EXCITEMENT... ADVENTURE...
...AND AS MATT MURDOCK YOU HAVE MONEY... PRESTIGE... RESPECT! YOU'VE GOT IT ALL, MATT!
ALL...? YOU SELF-PITYING IDIOT.
I'M STANDING HERE IN THE DARK, BEN. I CAN HEAR YOUR HEART BEAT, BUT I'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT YOUR FACE LOOKS LIKE. I CAN RUN ACROSS ROOFTOPS, BUT I'LL NEVER SEE THE STARS.
I WOULDN'T HAVE CHOSEN THIS LIFE... BUT I'VE GROWN TO LIKE IT. WE ALL LEARN TO LIVE WITH WHAT WE'VE GOT.
LIVE WITH WHAT YOU'VE GOT, SURE. BUT WHAT IN GOD'S NAME HAVE I GOT?
I'M SORRY. I HAD NO RIGHT TO TALK TO YOU LIKE THAT.
MORE THAN I'VE BEEN ABLE TO FIND, BEN.
SOMETIMES I THINK ABOUT HEATHER... OR KAREN... OR ELEKTRA...
...AND I WONDER IF IT'S NOT ALL JUST A BAD JOKE. IF IT'S REALLY POSSIBLE TO FIND ANYONE IN THIS SCREWED-UP WORLD... IF I SHOULDN'T JUST GIVE UP.
THEN I THINK OF YOU, AND DORIS... AND HOW YOU'VE STAYED TOGETHER SOMEHOW, DESPITE THE ODDS...
...AND IT GIVES ME A LITTLE BIT OF HOPE, BEN. IT REALLY DOES.
YOU MAKE ME ASHAMED, MATT.
YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M A LUCKY MAN. DORIS MEANS EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD TO ME...
I'M GOING TO BUY THE HOUSE, MATT. I'VE GOT TO.
...AND THAT'S WHY I CAN'T DISAPPOINT HER, ONE MORE TIME.
I'M SORRY.

THEY MET HERE, YEARS AGO. BACK WHEN A DAY AT CONEY ISLAND REALLY MEANT SOMETHING... BACK WHEN LUNA PARK AND DREAMLAND AND STEEPLECHASE HADN'T GIVEN WAY TO HIGH-RISES AND CONDOMINIUMS.
HE WAS A STUDENT. SHE WORKED A CONCESSION STAND. HE THOUGHT SHE WAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN HE HAD EVER SEEN.
HE LOVED HER THEN, AND HE LOVES HER NOW.
IT'S JUST EVERYTHING ELSE THAT'S CHANGED.
BEN?
OH, NO. HE... HE TOLD YOU...
NO. I MADE HIM TELL ME.
HE CAME LOOKING FOR YOU AT HOME. WE WAITED FOR HOURS. THEN DROVE EVERYWHERE I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE.
SOMEHOW, HE MANAGED TO FIGURE OUT WHERE YOU WERE IN THIS HUGE PARK.

BEN, WE CAN'T TAKE THAT HOUSE. YOU KNOW THAT.
NO, HONEY. I WON'T LET YOU DOWN AGAIN. I CAN'T.
BESIDES...
WHAT'S ONE MORE COP-OUT MORE OR--
...WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE. I'VE ALREADY SOLD OUT. I SPIKED THE CHEROKEE STORY... JUST TO SAVE MY OWN SKIN.
YOU LISTEN TO ME, BEN ULRICH.
STOP LETTING THAT FAT AT YOU. THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAVING YOUR LIFE...
...AND HANDING THAT LIFE OVER TO SOMEONE ELSE. LIKE JIMMY DID. SO YOU'RE NOT PERFECT. SO WHAT. DID I EVER ASK YOU TO BE PERFECT?
THE MAN I MET HERE TWENTY YEARS AGO WASN'T PERFECT, EITHER... BUT HE HAD A HEART, AND A CONSCIENCE, AND I FELL IN LOVE WITH HIM BECAUSE OF THAT.
IF THAT CHANGES, I...
...I DON'T KNOW IF I'D LOVE HIM SO MUCH ANYMORE.
WE'LL FIND ANOTHER PLACE, HONEY. I PROMISE.
I BELIEVE YOU, BEN.
YOU'VE KEPT EVERY PROMISE YOU EVER MADE ME..
...EVERY ONE THAT MATTERED...
END